

The Augusta Coin Club Meets on the 3rd Thursday of the Month at the Sunrise Grill, 3830 Washington Rd. Martinez

The Augusta Coin Club since 1959

Pres. Shelby Plooster
1st V.P. Burles Johnson
2nd V.P. Tommy Rhoden
Sec. John T. Attaway
Treas. Stacey Plooster
Sgt. in Arms: Bryan Hoyt



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THE AUGUSTA COIN CLUB MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

March, 2026

Our next meeting is Thursday, March. 20 & April 17, 2026, early arrivals from 6:00 PM

Collecting Early U.S. Sets; Part One

Club Meeting Calendar for 2026

Jan. 15	May 15	Sep. 18
Feb. 20	June 19	Oct. 16
Mar. 20	July 17	Nov. 20
Apr. 17	Aug. 21	Dec. 18



Collecting Very Early U.S. Large cents



An 1793 Chain Cent S-1 Replica by the Gallery mint
[Enlarge the page to fit monitor screen to view details.]

The very first U.S. cents were issued for use in 1793 in which there were three design types produced with the coin shown directly above as the first type called the Chain Cent. Collecting originals is virtually impossible due to their expense in all grades so the author decided to use the Gallery Mint examples that were produced in the mid 1990s which were replicated like the originals even though **they are not considered actual money today**. Nevertheless, the coin shown directly above is a very accurate copy of the originals Chain cent struck in 1793 and valued by contemporary numismatists.

Alas, people of this early era did not appreciate the portrait of Miss Liberty so another two types followed.



The second version of the Chain cent, S-11A added leaves to the center of the reverse of the coin but the obverse was despised by the American citizens of this period.

A Liberty Cap large cent S-12, Large 12 by the Gallery Mint
[Enlarge the page to fit monitor screen to view details.]

It wasn't until the Liberty Cap design of Miss Liberty was coined that the American people appreciated our early U.S. cent design type which was created and produced by our first Chief Engraver, Robert Scot. All three of three copper coin designs are extremely scarce and expensive in all grades, so/ the Gallery Mint replicas (that were highly praised when they came out) because they are reasonably priced examples, if not actual of our earliest U.S. copper coinage). Each one of these three coins is uncirculated with the word COPY on the center of the reverse.



A 1794 Large Cent graded VF-30
[Enlarge the page to fit monitor screen to view details.]

You've seen this coin before in a recent article but it is the earliest U.S. coin that one can afford compared with the three silver coins first struck in 1794 which are best known as the Flowing Hair Half Disme, Half-dollar and silver dollar types.



A 1795 Large cent, S-76B, VG-10, Net-8 by EAC
The 1875 Flowing Hair large cent is a firmly low grade specimen due to its massive use yet it is affordable to most collectors today,

Collecting Very Early U.S. Large cents

(Continued from page 1, column 2)

The Last of the flowing large cents



A 1796 Flowing Hair Large Cent S-84-Flowing Hair Large Cent
It was graded only VG-8, (Very Good)

[Enlarge the page 500% to fit the monitor screen]

enlarge the page to 500% and you may be surprised at how much is left over of the coin's design. The 1796 Flowing Hair would be the last time the flowing Hair type large cent would be produced. Later in the same year a new large cent type would be introduced.



In 1796, the Flowing Hair large cent was replaced by Draped Bust type

The new Draped Bust design type was far more artistic both due to the engraver, Robert Scot as well as the American people.



Anne Bingham, a resident of the Philadelphia area was supposedly our first Miss Liberty that appeared on our coinage but numismatic historians are not actually sure of that.



A 1797 Draped Bust large cent S-139, RB1 graded Fine-12
[Enlarge the page 500% to fit the monitor screen]

The mintage for the 1797 large cent was 897,520, which was nearly nowhere near as large of the 1798 cent so obtaining high graded examples of this date are difficult and highly expensive. This coin was acquired at the FUN Show held in Orlando, FL back in January 10th in 2003. It cost \$300 back then. Today it retails for around \$450 in the grade shown. If enlarged to 150% the Bust of Miss Liberty is quite worn down while the lower portions of the coin remains fairly intact since the Miss Liberty's hair is brightly shown along with the date, 1897 clearly shown below.



A 1798 Draped Bust large-cent, MS-167 graded VF-25
Known as the whisker variety graded VF-25

With a reported mintage of 1,841,745, the 1798 Draped Bust Large cent is the easiest early U.S. large cent to obtain. If magnified to 200% on your computer, you can see the coin's structure more clearly. As a result, this example has better eye appeal than the previous dated ones, yet cost a reasonable price.



A replica of the extremely rare 1799 large cent
By the Gallery Mint Museum

When it comes to the 1799 issue of the Draped But large cent, the small mintage of just 42,540 makes it virtually impossible to acquire an example of the coin, so I took advantage of the Gallery Mint's replica to add to my collection to acquire an example of the coin, I took advantage of the Gallery Mint's replica to add to my collection/1799.

**AUGUSTA COIN CLUB, INC.
MINUTES OF MEETING
February 19, 2026**

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. at the Sunrise Grill by President, Shelby Plooster. We had 50 members present and 2 guests present.

The Secretary's Report:

The December 18, 2025 minutes were not read. A copy is kept on file.

The Treasurer's Report:

The Treasurer's Report was sent by email from Stacey Plooster. We have \$20,484.10 deposited in the checking account.

The Prize Winners:

The winner of the 50/50 raffle was Caroline Smith who won \$80.00. Her sister, Isabelle Smith won a 1995 Proof Silver Eagle. Bruce Eaton won a 1996 Proof Silver Eagle.

**The Spring Coin Show May 22(Friday)
and May 23 (Saturday) 2026**

Steve Nix - Bourse Chairman.

The Spring Coin Show will be held at the Columbia County Exhibition Center located at the Grovetown Walmart at exit 190. The dealers could set up Thursday night from 4 pm to 8 pm.. Mr. Sammy Lucky provided our postcards that were mailed. Thank you Mr. Lucky!

Show and Tells:

Clay Smith displayed a PCGS VF35 Bar cent. Clay Holland displayed a 1897 Proof 63 Barber Quarter. Everitt Price displayed a 2025 Peace and Morgan dollar. Mike Brill displayed a toned MS63 toned 1904-O Morgan dollar. Jim Sproull displayed

different medals from his wife's uncle's collection.

The Program:

There was no program given.

Old Business:

Perfect attendance has been suspended. Red books from Leaphart Coins will be available for a cost of \$12. Program givers will be awarded two Silver Eagles instead of a 1/10 oz. gold coin. Members, please pay your dues. This was the outcome of our Board of Directors Meeting on February 18, 2025. Rent to use the Sunrise Grill was raised from 50 dollars a meeting to 200 dollars a meeting. Shelby stated you must be a paid member to win a door prize.

New Business: Club

Dues for 2026 will be \$20; juniors are free. Arno Safran won the drawing for putting on programs for our monthly meetings. The prize was a \$200 dollar gift certificate donated by Steve Damron. The club was made aware of Georgia Senate Bill 424 which will affect the silver and gold to be used as legal tender.

This being Arno Safran's last Augusta meeting, the club gave Arno a life membership, retired his member and presented him with a GSA BU Carson City dollar. He has moved back to Doyle's, PA. town located about 40 miles north of Philadelphia, PA.

Upcoming Coin Shows:

Atlanta Monthly Show March 15, 2026
Marietta, GA (new location)

ANA Money Show February 26-28, 2026
Savannah, GA

Aiken Coin Show March 7, 2026 Aiken, SC
Upstate Coin Show February 20-22, 2026
Spartanburg,

Camden Coin Show March 20-21, 2026
Camden, Sc

Coin Auction

Burles Johnson ran the auction (11lots).
Everette Price and Shelby Plooster delivered
the goods as the auction went smoothly.

**Respectively Submitted,
John Thomas Attaway**

Coin? of the Month



An 1815 dated Canadian Pre-confederation token grading AU
[Use 3x magnifying glass or magnify page to 200% to view details.]

1815 is the only year from 1793 to date that the Mint failed to issue a cent. That's quite a record! Collectors wishing to add the date 1815 to their cent collection have the choice of coming across an altered Classic Head 1813 cent issue or an 1816 Coronet cent with an altered date. Such altered coins exist but seldom surface even at the largest shows. Why not seek out an original Canadian token dated 1815 that may have actually circulated in the United States. The item shown above is approximately the size of a US large Cent. It is a Lower Canada Pre-Confederation token bearing the date 1815 in the amount of a half-penny which was worth roughly the amount of a cent at the time of issue.



**Memories of our Patriot's Park Coin Show
Held in November 2013**

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